

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ACDA-05 /106 W

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P 130824Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3478

INFO USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 0234

DEPT PASS OTHER AF POSTS IF DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, WA, AO, SG

SUBJ: UN COMMISSIONER MCBRIDE COMMENTS ON DAKAR NAMIBA CONFERENCE
AND ANGOLA SITUATION

REF: DAKAR 108, 200, 201, 202

1. SUMMARY. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR FOLLOWING CONCLUSION
OF DAKAR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NAMIBIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS,
UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA SEA MACBRIDE SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS
IMPLICATIONS OF CONFERENCE WITH USUN AND DEPT. DURING WEEKS OF
JAN 12 AND 19, RESPECTIVELY. EH BELIEVES CONFERENCE HAS BEEN
SUCCESSFUL AS CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING EXERCISE. HE SAW
US-USSR ENTENTE AS KEY TO ANGOLA SOLUTION AND FELT SOVIET-US
BILATERALS ON ANGOLA MIGHT HAVE USEFUL PROLONGATION INTO JOINT
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EXAMINATION SOME ASPECTS NAMIBIA SITUATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MEETING JANUARY 11 WITH MACBRIDE AT HIS REQUEST, AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD THAT ON BALANCE DAKAR NAMIBIA CONFERENCE COULD BE CONSIDERED SUCCESS BECAUSE IT BROUGHT GREATER CONSCIOUSNESS TO AFRICAN CONTINENT OF SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS OF NAMIBIA SITUATION. HE WOULD CONVEY HIS IMPRESSIONS TO AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN DURING WEEK OF JANUARY 12 AND TO DEPT FOLLOWING WEEK.

3. MCBRIDE WAS PLEASED THAT DURING CONFERENCE ANGOLAN PROBLEM DID NOT SUBMERGE BASIC ISSUES OF NAMIBIAN SITUATION. HE FELT ONE KEY TO SOLUTION IN ANGOLA WOULD BE SOVIET-US TALKS LEADING TO AGREEMENT THAT NEITHER WOULD SEEK MILITARY BASES IN ANGOLA. HE FELT SAME TALKS MIGHT USEFULLY ENGAGE POLICY OF SUPER-POWER DETENTE IN NAMIBIA WHICH WOULD FAVOR PROCESS OF INDEPENDENCE. HE ALSO MADE THIS POINT IN MEETING WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR.

4. MACBRIDE FELT ANGOLAN WAR HAS HARDENED SOUTH AFRICAN ATTITUDE ON NAMIBIA. VORSTER HAD SHOWN SOME FLEXIBILITY AS HE ADVANCED GRAND PLAN FOR DETENTE WITH IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS WHICH INCLUDED ASSURING A FRIENDLY CLIENT REGIME IN NAMIBIA. SA'S ANGOLAN ESCAPE WAS PROBABLY CONCOCTED TO TRY TO WIN PUBLIC FAVOR FOR SAG AS DEFENDING DEMOCRACY AGAINST COMMUNISM IN AFRICA. HOWEVER, VORSTER WAS UNDER ATTACK ABROAD FOR INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AND CRITICIZED AT HOME BECAUSE SA INCURSIONS INTO ANGOLA FROM NAMIBIA HAD SUFFERED SOME MILITARY SETBACKS.

5. MACBRIDE FELT PRESIDENT KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA WAS IN DIFFICULTY AT HOME BECAUSE OF HIS REALISTIC BUT PERHAPS COSMETICALLY TOO MODERATE POLICIES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE HOPED KAUNDA'S PROBLEMS WOULD NOT PERSIST BECAUSE, WITH NYERERE AND SENHOR, HE WAS MAIN HOPE AMONG AFRICAN LEADERS FOR DEVELOPING FEASIBLE STRATEGY FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

6. MACBRIDE EXPECTED TO FIND MORE HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN AFRICAN PROBLEMS IN DEPT NOW THAT ANGOLAN ISSUE HAD DRAWN PRESIDENT FORD'S AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ATTENTION TO REGION. WHILE HE DID NOT FAVOR SOLUTIONS DICTATED BY SUPER POWERS, US AND USSR COULD HAVE POSITIVE ROLES IN MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IN AREA.

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